

## STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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REGIONAL OFFICE

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333 E. WASHINGTON STREET
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JOHN T. GENTRY. M. D. REGIONAL HEALTH DIRECTOR

February 23, 1961

Professor Joshua Leberberg Stanford University Palo Alto, California

Dear Professor Leberberg:

Doctor James Neel, Professor of Genetics in the University of Michigan, has advised me of your work in Biochemical Genetics and some of the thoughts you expressed at the recent Bar Harbor Symposium concerning mutagenic chemicals in foods. I believe he mentioned that you also went into the existence of selenium and arsenic in plants, etc. and the relationship which this may have on the animal life secondarily involved.

I am very much involved in attempting to evaluate the question of the possible etiological role which natural environmental factors may play in observed differences in congenital malformation rates in man in Upstate New York and would very much appreciate any reprints which you may have available concerning the general role of chemical mutagenesis and the respective elements and concentrations which may be involved.

Let me thank you in advance for your interest and assistance.

Sincerely yours,

John T. Gentry, M. D. Regional Health Director

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